

REMARKS

This communication is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on January 25, 2005. The Restriction Requirement reports that three patentably distinct inventions are present in the application. In particular, a first invention was found in claims 1-10, drawn to a variable reluctance sensor, classified in class 324, subclass 207.13 (Group I), a second invention in claims 11-16, drawn to combination system comprising an engine and sensor assembly, classified in class 324, subclass 402 (Group II) and a third invention in claims 17-22, drawn to method of preparing an engine for checking engine ignition timing comprising inserting a sensor, classified in class 324, subclass 391.

Please cancel claims 1-10. Applicants hereby elect claims (Group II) for continued prosecution on the merits. However, it is respectfully submitted that a search of the invention of claims 11-16 would cover the features recited in claims 17-22. In particular, claim 11 recites a combination of an engine having a timing port and a sensor assembly threadably secured in the timing port, the sensor assembly being adapted to provide a timing mark signal indicative of presence of a timing mark. Dependent claims 12-16 recite features of the sensor assembly including a support tube, a common location of threads and a device for securing a position of the support to relative to the sensor assembly, e.g. at locking nut.

Similarly, independent claim 17 recites a method of preparing an engine for checking the ignition timing thereof wherein the engine has a timing port and the method comprises securing a support tube proximate the timing port and inserting a sensor assembly into the support tube. In addition, similarities of the features recited in the elected claims of 11-16 parallel the features recited in the method of claims 17-22. Thus,

applicant submits a search of claims 11-16 would also cover the features recited in claims 17-22. Therefore, it is respectfully believed that claims 17-22 can remain in the application.

An extension of time is hereby requested for responding to the Restriction Requirement. A charge authorization for the extension of time fee is included herewith.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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